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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 IO-13
ACDA-07 ERDA-05 NRC-05 EB-07 OES-07 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /118 W
----------057026 231743Z /42
R 231005Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3217
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL KARACHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 5558

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR PK IR
SUBJ: BHUTTO VISIT TO IRAN

REF: ISLAMABAD 6331(NOTAL)

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. PAKISTAN PRIMIN BHUTTO PAID OVERNIGHT VISIT TO IRAN JUNE 21-22 AND MET WITH PRIMIN HOVEYDA AND SHAH. BHUTTO INDICATED HE DISCUSSED REGIONAL MATTERS AND BRIEFED HIS HOSTS ON LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN PAKISTAN. HE REITERATED HIS PROPOSAL FOR MUSLIM NON-AGRESSION PACT (REFTEL) WHICH, EXCEPT FOR JUNE 22 TEHRAN JOURNAL FRONT-PAGE HEADLINE, RECEIVED EITHER NO OR MINIMAL PRESS PLAY.
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2. AT DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE, BHUTTO TERMED HIS IRANIAN TALKS FRUITFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN FORTHCOMING ELECTION BUT WITH RESPECT TO OUTCOME, COMPARED ELECTION PROCESS WITH PREGNANT WOMAN: "ONE CANNOT SAY WHETHER THE CHILD IS GOING TO BE A BOY OR A GIRL BEFORE THE BIRTH". REGARDING

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SALE OF FRENCH NUCLEAR REACTORS TO PAKISTAN, BHUTTO SAID NEITHER PAKISTAN NOR US HAS CHANGED VIEWS. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT FRENCH WOULD HONOR UNDERTAKING TO SUPPLY PAKISTAN WITH NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. IN REPLY TO QUESTION ON PAK-CENTO TIES, BHUTTO SAID IT WAS NOT PAKISTAN WHICH HAD FAILED TO SHOW INTEREST IN CENTO, BUT CENTO WHICH "HAS FAILED TO SHOW INTEREST IN ITSELF", ADDING THAT CENTO HAD NOT COME UP IN TEHRAN TALKS.

END UNCLASSIFIED

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3. PRESS COVERAGE OF VISIT, THOUGH FRONT PAGE, WAS MINIMAL. NEITHER SHAH NOR HOVEYDA MADE COMMENT FOR PUBLIC RECORD REGARDING VISIT. IRANIANS, WHILE POLITE, WERE CLEARLY REFLECTING GENERAL VIEW HERE THAT BHUTTO UNNECESSARILY GO HIMSELF OUT ON A LIMB WITH ELECTION RIGGING AND HAD PICKED RATHER DIFFICULT WAY (CHARGES OF US INTERFERENCE IN ELECTIONS) TO SAW HIMSELF OFF. PAK EMB HERE, WHICH IS NORMALLY HELPFUL, INDICATED BHUTTO MADE CALLS ALONE AND DID NOT BRIEF EMB BEYOND PUBLIC STATEMENTS.

4. WILL REPORT IF FURTHER INFORMATION SURFACES IN NEAR FUTURE.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: BHUTTO VISIT TO IRAN
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, PK, IR, (BHUTTO, ALI)
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